

Provisional Vital Statistics for January 2003

Live births increased in January as 5,774 Missouri babies were born compared with 5,598 one year earlier. Cumulative births for the 12 months ending with January increased by 4.5 percent, but this is mainly a function of irregular reporting as the provisional 2002 live birth count of 75,167 was 0.2 percent less than the 2001 number.

Deaths also showed a large increase (8.2 percent) for the 12 months ending with January, but this too, is primarily a function of irregular reporting. The provisional 2002 death total of 55,636 was just 1.9 percent higher than the 54,601 who died in 2001.

The **Natural increase** in January was 895 (5,774 births minus 4,879 deaths). The estimated 2002 natural increase of 19,531 is the lowest since 1995.

Marriages and dissolutions of marriage both decreased in January and for the 12 months ending with January. Both of these are continuations of long-term trends. In the last 20 years, marriages have decreased by 23 percent and dissolutions of marriage have decreased by 14 percent.

Infant deaths increased for January and the 12 months ending with January. The provisional infant death rate of 8.5 per 1,000 live births is the highest in 10 years.

PROVISIONAL RESIDENT VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI

<u>January</u>					<u>12 months ending with January</u>								<u>Provisional</u>	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>			<u>Rate*</u>				2002		
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	
Live Births	5,598	5,774	11.6	12.3	78,187	73,538	76,847	13.8	14.0	13.0	13.5	75,167	13.2	
Deaths	4,592	4,879	9.5	10.4	54,258	52,814	57,160	10.2	9.7	9.4	10.1	55,636	9.8	
Natural increase	1,006	895	2.1	1.9	23,929	20,724	19,687	3.6	4.3	3.7	3.5	19,531	3.4	
Marriages	2,049	1,935	4.3	4.1	43,342	42,334	42,180	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.4	41,552	7.3	
Dissolutions	1,866	1,711	3.9	3.6	24,958	23,516	22,758	4.5	4.5	4.2	4.0	22,593	4.0	
Infant deaths	37	55	6.6	9.5	566	571	679	7.7	7.2	7.8	8.8	638	8.5	
Population base (in thousands)	...	...	5,673	5,708	...	...	...	5,551	5,598	5,640	5,676	...	5,673

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1,000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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